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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,139	06/25/2003	Russell Whitaker	STE01 P1156	3991

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EXAMINER

SZUMNY, JONATHON A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3632

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,139

Applicant(s)

WHITAKER ET AL.

Examiner

Jon A Szumny

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-15, 18 and 19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

This is the second office action for application number 10/606,139, Adjustable Keyboard Support, filed on June 25, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Timm '467 in view of U.S. Patent number 5,901,933 to Lin.

Tim '467 discloses a support mechanism (figures 1-5) comprising a mounting bracket (30), a support arm (32,34) having a first end (top half, generally, see figure 10) thereof operably coupled with the mounting bracket, and a second end (bottom half, generally, see figure 10); a platform having a first section (42,44,48) having a forward portion (right side in figure 2, generally) and a rearward portion (left side in figure 2, generally) disposed generally opposite the forward portion and operably coupled to the second end of the support arm, and a second section (20, 110,112, generally) having a forward portion and a rearward portion disposed generally opposite the forward portion of the second section and pivotably coupled to the forward portion of the first section at a first point (near 140,142); and an adjustment mechanism having an actuator member (60,153,62) defining a length and operably coupled with the first section of the platform (at 64, generally), and a linking member (152) operably coupled to the rearward portion of the second section of the platform at a second point (near 145) and

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adjustable along the length of the actuator member (when 60 is twisted, 152 inherently rides along the actuator member) such that an adjustment of the linking member along the length of the actuator member causes the platform to pivot about the first point, thereby adjusting a tilt of the second section of the platform relative to the support surface; wherein the actuator includes a graspable head (60) outwardly disposed from the platform. However, Timm '467 fails to specifically teach the first end of the support arm to be *pivotably* coupled with the mounting bracket.

Nevertheless, Lin '933 divulges a support mechanism (figures 1,3) comprising a support arm (22) having a first end pivotably coupled (through axis at 221) with a mounting bracket (111,12, generally). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have *pivotably* coupled the first end of the support arm with the mounting bracket so as to increase the utility of the support mechanism by providing for a more adjustable support.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 15, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11 and 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10, 12-15, 18 and 19 are allowed.

Claim 16 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Reasons for allowance for claims 1, 12, 16 and 19 can be found in the previous office action.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon A Szumny whose telephone number is (703) 306-3403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application and proceeding are assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is

(703) 308-1113.



Jon Szumny
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600
Art Unit 3632
November 4, 2004



ANITA KING
PRIMARY EXAMINER